

pressure generated by said higher air-pressure generating means to said air cylinder when said heater unit is moved with respect to said chute and to supply said lower pressure generated by said lower air-pressure generating means to said air cylinder when said compressive force is controlled.

21. The packaging machine of claim 20 wherein said control means further serves to additionally supply said higher pressure to said air cylinder for a specified length of time while said lower pressure is being supplied to said air cylinder by said switching means.

22. The packaging machine of claim 20 wherein said air cylinder has a first chamber and a second chamber, and wherein said switching means serves to supply said high pressure to said first chamber to thereby move said heater unit to said retracted position, to supply said high pressure to said second chamber to thereby move said heater unit to said sealing position, and to supply said low pressure to said second chamber to thereby control said compressive force.

23. The packaging machine of claim 22 wherein said control means further serves to additionally supply said higher pressure to said second chamber for a specified length of time while said lower pressure is being supplied to said second chamber by said switching means.--

REMARKS

In the Advisory Action dated September 15, 2000 in the parent application of which the instant application is being filed as a continued prosecution application, the Examiner stated that applicant's Amendment "B" After Final Action included amendment which raised new issues and that these new issues would require further consideration and/or search. This continued prosecution application is being filed in order to have such additional consideration and/or search effected.

As explained in detail in the REMARKS section of said Amendment "B", applicant believes that the application was already in condition for allowance. For this reason, the claims 6-17 are herein presented as before. Applicant notes the Examiner's comment in said Advisory Action to the effect that the "characteristics of the film" have not been specified nor how they would control the compressive force. In order to make clear regarding the characteristics of the film and the means for allowing these characteristics of the film to control pressure, new claims have been introduced herein, stating clearly that the characteristics include material and thickness of the film and that it is a control means which controls the compressive force according to the film characteristics. It is therefore believed that the Examiner would find claims 18-23 allowable even after finding claims 6-17 not allowable in spite of the argument of applicant.

Respectfully submitted,



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